

CHAPTER 605

Park Operations and Traffic Control

605-1. Definitions.

- (A) Terms used in this Chapter shall have the same meaning defined for such terms as in IC 9-13-2 unless specifically provided otherwise.
- (B) **Department** shall mean the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department or the Board of Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners of Monroe County which supervises the Department.
- (C) **Vegetation** includes any plant (except cultivated grasses) flower, flower bulb, bud, flower bed, shrub, tree (or any tree branch, stem, root or fruit).
- (D) **Park** or **Parked** (as related to a vehicle) means any vehicle that is standing or stopped, whether occupied or not occupied.

605-2. Hours of Operation.

- (A) All parks operated by the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department shall be open to the public as follows:

April 1 through October 31:
7:00 a.m. - sunset

November 1 through March 31:
8:00 a.m. - sunset

Karst Farm Park Soccer Fields:

April 1 through October 31:
Fields 1-6 open only for scheduled games

November 1 through March 31:
Fields 1-6 closed

The Park Superintendent shall have the authority to shorten the hours of operation because of inclement weather, or to lengthen the hours of operation for tournaments or other special events. The Park Superintendent shall also have the authority to close a portion of a park, while allowing other portions to remain open to the public.

- (B) The Department shall post these hours of operation on signs at the principal entrance to each park property. Entrances to the parks or access roads within the parks may be closed by gate, chain, or other barrier whenever the park, or a portion of the park is closed to the public. The opening, attempted opening or removal of such gate, chain or other barrier is unlawful.

- (C) It is unlawful for any person other than employees of the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department or law enforcement officers to enter or remain in the park except when it is open to the public as herein specified.

605-3. After-hours and Overnight Parking.

- (A) No person shall park a vehicle on Monroe County Parks and Recreation property, or allow it to remain parked, after the property is closed to the public as set forth in Section 605-2.
- (B) In addition to penalties hereafter prescribed, the Park Superintendent is authorized to remove the vehicle from park property without further notice to the owner or operator. The registered owner shall be responsible for the towing and storage fees which are incurred.

605-4. Parking on Access Roads Prohibited.

- (A) In order to promote safe and orderly ingress and egress from park property, the Park Superintendent may establish ~~A~~No Parking Zones~~@~~, with appropriate signage along interior access roads. Where so posted, no person shall park a vehicle either on or immediately adjacent to such interior access roads.
- (B) In addition to penalties hereafter prescribed, the Park Superintendent is authorized to remove from the property any vehicle parked in a ~~A~~No Parking Zone~~@~~ without further notice to the owner or operator. The registered owner shall be responsible for the towing and storage fees which are incurred.

605-5. Unpaved Parking Areas.

- (A) The Park Superintendent may designate unpaved portions of park property for vehicle parking by erecting signage, temporary fencing, barriers, applying ground markings or providing an attendant to direct parking.
- (B) It shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle on any unpaved portion of park property which is not designated for vehicle parking.

605-6. Handicapped Parking.

- (A) The Park Superintendent shall designate parking spaces by appropriate signage which shall be reserved for use by persons with physical disabilities in accord with IC 5-16-9.
- (B) No one shall park a vehicle in a space reserved for persons with physical disabilities unless there is displayed on the vehicle a placard, registration plate, permit or decal which was issued in conformity with IC 5-16-9.

605-7. Maximum Speed Limit.

- (A) The maximum speed of any vehicle operated within properties of the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department is 15 m.p.h. in accord with IC 9-21-1-3(5).
- (B) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a vehicle in excess of this speed limit.

605-8. Towing Contracts.

The Administrator of the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department is authorized to enter into towing contracts or agreements for the removal and storage of vehicles parked or abandoned on park property in violation of this ordinance.

605-9. Nonliability for Loss of Damage.

No entity of Monroe County Government or authorized towing service or automobile storage yard shall be liable for loss or damage to vehicles during their towing or storage which are removed from park property because of violation of this ordinance.

605-10. Causing Damage to Park Property or Vegetation.

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any person to deface, damage, remove or destroy any building, shelter, sign, fence, drive, parking area, walk, post, gate, chain, barrier or equipment within park boundaries.
- (B) It shall be unlawful for any person to cut, break, remove or disturb any vegetation within the boundaries of any park unless he/she is engaged in a nature study program supervised by the Department.

605-11. Recreational Trails.

The establishment of recreational trails by Monroe County is authorized on all corridors and parcels of corridors owned by the County or subject to the County's interim trail use rights and on those other properties the County owns or from which it has obtained easements for trail development purposes. Once such trails are constructed and determined by the Board of Commissioners to be ready for public use, these trails shall become part of the Monroe County trail system. The Department shall be responsible for operating and maintaining all trails in the Monroe County trail system and these trails shall be treated under this Chapter as Monroe County parks and are subject to the provisions of this Chapter on park property.

605-12. Enforcement.

- (A) The Sheriff of Monroe County may issue an Ordinance Violation for any violation of this Chapter, which may be enforced with the assistance of the Monroe County Attorney, or in appropriate cases by the Monroe County Prosecutor.
- (B) The Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department, with the assistance of the Monroe County Attorney may enforce any violation of this Chapter as an Ordinance Violation.

605-13. Penalties.

- (A) A person who violates Sections 2, 3, 4 or 5 of this Chapter commits a Class E Ordinance Violation. In addition to the prescribed fine and Court costs, a judgment may also include the amount necessary to reimburse the Department for any towing or storage fee which it has incurred.
- (B) A person who violates Section 6 of this Chapter commits a Class C Ordinance Violation. In the alternative, the violation may be charged as a Class C Infraction by the State of Indiana.
- (C) A person who violates Section 10 of this Chapter commits a Class D Ordinance Violation. In addition to the prescribed fine and court costs, a judgment may also include the amount necessary to reimburse the Department for its expenses incurred in restoring or replacing property.
- (D) A person who receives notice of an Ordinance Violation of this Chapter may pay the penalty and restitution, if any, indicated on that notice to the Monroe County Treasurer or Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department within seventy-two (72) hours and thereby avoid the court costs which might be assessed in further legal proceedings.

[end of chapter]